

REMARKS

The claims previously in the case are replaced by a set of new claims that are believed to be in proper form and clearly patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for rejection of the claims as unpatentable over NISHIMURA in view of GAULD et al., or further in view of SCHMITT et al. or KIM, or still further in view of IKEDA et al., or further in view of WADA et al., or as unpatentable over IKEDA et al. in view of WADA et al. and further in view of SCHMITT et al.

An important feature of the present invention is the configuration of the horizontal rotation axis and the folding axis as shown in Fig. 3, which provide the housings two turning operations, namely, a foldable rotation and a horizontal rotation, in any position, i.e., while the housings are closed and also while the housings are opened. None of cited references discloses this feature.

Another important feature is that the information input device is arranged on top of another end portion of the horizontal rotation axis, and the information input device is exposed to an outside of the mobile terminal both when the mobile terminal is in the open position and when the mobile terminal is in the closed position. This feature has the advantage that the information input device can be used in the closed position as


well as the opened position. Thus, for example, if the information input device is a fingerprint sensor, it is quite useful to use the fingerprint sensor when both housings are closed.

As the new claims bring out these features with ample particularity and distinctness, it is believed that they are all patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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